REMARKS

The Office Action mailed January 29, 2007 has been carefully reviewed.

Claims 6-20 are now pending in this application. Claims 6-20 are allowed. Claims 1-5 have been canceled.

The objection to the abstract of the disclosure is respectfully traversed. Applicants have amended the abstract. For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully request the objection to the abstract be withdrawn.

The objection to the title of the invention is respectfully traversed. Applicants have amended the title of the invention. For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully request the objection to the title of the invention be withdrawn.

Applicant believes that the Statement of Reasons for Allowance in this case is improper as it merely copies portions of each limitation of the independent claim into the reasons for allowance. While Applicant believes that the claims are allowable, Applicant does not acquiesce that patentability resides in each feature, exactly as expressed in the claims, nor that each feature is required for patentability.

Also, reasons for allowance are only warranted in instances in which the record of the prosecution as a whole does not make clear the Examiner's reasons for allowing a claim or claims (see 37 CFR §1.104(e)). In the present case, Applicant believes the record as a whole does make the reasons for allowance clear and therefore no statement by the Examiner is necessary or warranted. Furthermore, Applicant does not necessarily agree with each statement in the reasons for allowance and do not necessarily agree with the Examiner's interpretation of the teachings of the cited art.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, all the claims now active in this application are believed to be in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and favorable action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert B. Reeser, IN

Registration No. 45,548

ARMSTRONG TEASDALE LLP One Metropolitan Square, Suite 2600

St. Louis, Missouri 63102-2740

(314) 621-5070